

## ABSTRACT

In the present invention, an IP address of a communication party is detected by analysing flow information of communication carried out by the user, and in case the IP address of the communication party is an IP address registered in advance by the user, the communication charge appropriate to the communication carried out by the user is calculated in the discount charge form. Further, in case the communication party is a communication party registered in a group of the user, the communication charge carried out by the user is calculated using the discount charge form different from the standard communication charge. In the present invention, the meter-rate billing process is not carried out uniformly with respect to the user merely appropriately to an amount of communication data of the user but the discount charge form for discounting the communication charge appropriately to an amount of communication of the user with respect to the communication party is applied whereby billing in the charge form which is individual every user can be carried out. Further, such a discount process as described is carried out appropriately to the communication party whereby various billing services rich in flexibility can be provided.